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LibrarieS

newsletter

Vol. 5 no. 4 May 1981

**INSIDE:**

**CARLIS By-laws, Details of CARLIS'  
conference program**

C A R L I S

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND INDEXING IN THE FINE ARTS  
IN CANADA

Panel Discussion

Canadian Library Association conference, Hamilton, Ontario  
Friday, June 12, 2 - 5pm, McMaster University, Chester New Hall, Rm106

Moderator: Mary F. Williamson

Speakers:

Andrea Refalvi, Research Librarian, Dept. of Fine Art, University of Toronto

Andrea Refalvi is the compiler of two bibliographical projects. "The Year's Exhibitions in Canada" is an annual listing, published in RACAR of art exhibition catalogues issued by Canadian galleries and museums.

The "Canadian Illustrated News (Montreal) 1869-1883 ; Index to Illustrations" is an on-going publishing project sponsored by the Dept. of Fine Art. The main listing in each separately published volume is the illustrations themselves in the order in which they appear, followed by indexes to artists (including engravers), a broad subject index, and an index of photographers whose work was engraved for the magazine.

Elizabeth Hulse, Thomas Fisher Rare Books Library, University of Toronto

The Dictionary of the Book Trades in 19th century Toronto, being prepared for publication by Elizabeth Hulse, includes entries for individuals and companies associated with the book arts: engravers, lithographers, typographers, printers, binders, etc. Miss Hulse has drawn on a wide range of printed and manuscript sources: directories, local histories, trade journals, legal registrations, biographical dictionaries, autobiographies and memoirs, and company histories, and in turn the dictionary will itself serve as a resource for bibliographical study.

Denis Castonguay, Picture Division, Public Archives of Canada

The Picture Division of the Public Archives of Canada has been concerned for some time with descriptive standards for inventorying works of art in the National Inventory Programme of the National Museums. By developing a thesaurus for computerized iconographic analysis and retrieval, Denis Castonguay and his colleagues feel that they will eventually be able to provide researchers with a convenient means of searching works of documentary art.

cont'd...

Kathy Perry Slide Library, Concordia University

The Concordia University Art Index to 19th Century Canadian Periodicals has been compiled by graduate students in the Canadian art history programme under the direction of Professor Hardy George. Over 20,000 entries have been indexed in 30 English and French language periodicals, chosen for their relevance to the fine arts, architecture, archaeology, architecture, art collections, collecting and art societies. Publication of the Index has been announced for this year.

Michael Pantazzi, Dept. of European Art, National Gallery of Canada

To date, more than 350 exhibition catalogues have been indexed by Michael Pantazzi for the Index to Canadian art exhibition catalogues to 1914. The Index consists of an alphabetical arrangement of artists with their works listed in chronological order. Catalogues of exhibitions of Canadian art held outside Canada, such as works of art shown at universal expositions, have been included. Occasionally newspaper accounts exist of exhibitions for which no catalogue has survived, and these too have been indexed. No publication plans at this time.

#### REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The major effort this year has been devoted to the production of by-laws for CARLIS. Under the chairmanship of Theresa Iverson, the by-laws committee met during the ARLIS conference in San Francisco to examine the first draft of our proposed by-laws. The outcome of that meeting, the second draft, incorporating some of the response received to date, is published on the following pages. Please send your comments, ideas and suggestions on the proposed by-laws to Theresa Iverson by June 1, 1981. The final draft of the by-laws will be presented at the Annual General Meeting of CARLIS in Hamilton on June 13. My congratulations to Theresa Iverson, by-laws committee chairman, for all the hardwork that has gone into this important endeavor.

Since the proposed by-laws (which will provide for annual election of officers by mail ballot) will not be finalized prior to the Annual General Meeting, I asked Karen MacKenzie and Susan Hasbury to form an interim nominating committee to recruit candidates to run for office for the 1981/82 term. Some six CARLIS members have so far consented to let their names stand, and Karen has assured me that a full slate of candidates is likely to be on the ballots that will be sent out later this month. The successful candidates will take office at the close of the Annual General Meeting in Hamilton. I urge all CARLIS members to take advantage of the opportunity to vote, and give my best wishes to all candidates. To the successful ones, I wish an interesting and productive year at the helm of CARLIS.

An interim progress report on the Artists in Canada Data Base project appears elsewhere in this newsletter, and I hope there will be more news of this CARLIS project in June. The perennial problem of our membership list is still not entirely solved, and I will be reporting on it more fully in Hamilton. In the meantime, please see the 'mailing list' note on the back cover of this issue.

Thanks to Mary Williamson, program co-ordinator, we have another interesting program on bibliography and indexing for our Hamilton conference, and I hope I will see many of you there.

Kathy Zimer

\*See page 14 for transitional procedures for nominations and elections.

SECOND DRAFT

APRIL 1981

## CANADIAN ART LIBRARIES SECTION

### PROPOSED BY-LAWS

#### I NAME

The name of this body shall be the Canadian Art Libraries Section (CARLIS), a section of the Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services (CASLIS), hereinafter referred to as the "Section".

#### II OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Section shall be to support, advance, and promote the cause of art librarianship in Canada.

#### III CONSTITUTION

The provisions of these by-laws shall be in agreement with and shall not conflict with the constitutions and by-laws of the Canadian Library Association (CLA) and CASLIS.

#### IV MEMBERSHIP

- A. Membership in the Section shall be open to any member in good standing of CASLIS, interested in the objectives of the Section.
- B. Members shall be classified as follows:
  1. Personal members.
  2. Institutional members.
- C. Personal members shall have the following rights and privileges:
  1. the right to vote.
  2. the right to hold elective office.
  3. the right to serve on committees of the Section.
  4. the right to receive the Canadian Art Libraries (CARLIS) Newsletter.
  5. the right to attend the Section's Annual General Meeting.
  6. other benefits and services as the Section may determine.

D. Institutional members shall have the following rights and privileges:

1. the right to receive the Canadian Art Libraries (CARLIS) Newsletter.
2. the right to send a representative to the Section's Annual General Meeting.
3. other benefits and services as the Section may determine.

#### V EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. Management of the Section shall be vested in an Executive Committee which shall be composed of five officers elected from the Section's personal membership: President, Vice-President (President-Elect), Secretary/Treasurer, and two Directors. The President and Vice-President should live in different regions.

#### B. Duties

The Executive Committee shall oversee and manage the activities of the Section, report to the membership at the Section's Annual General Meeting and periodically through its Newsletter, and report to CASLIS at its Annual General Meeting.

The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

##### President

1. to be the Chief Executive Officer and official representative of the Section.
2. to chair all meetings of both the Executive Committee and the the Section, without the right to vote except in the case of a tie.
3. to execute or oversee execution of the Section's policies and programs.
4. to serve *ex officio* on all Section committees.
5. to present the Section's Annual Report to the CASLIS Annual General Meeting.
6. to receive reports of Section committees.
7. with the Secretary/Treasurer, to open and count ballots concerning amendments to the By-laws

##### Vice-President (President-Elect)

1. to act for the President in his/her absence or incapacity.
2. to undertake tasks assigned by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee.

#### Secretary/Treasurer

1. to maintain Section records, including those of membership.
2. to record and submit to the Newsletter Editor, the minutes of the Section's Annual General Meeting.
3. to submit to the Newsletter Editor, the Section's membership list.
4. to record and distribute to the officers, the minutes of all Executive Committee meetings.
5. to assist the President with Executive Committee and Section correspondence.
6. in consultation with the Executive Committee, to prepare the Section's annual budget.
7. to distribute and, with the President, to open and count ballots concerning amendments to the By-laws.

#### Directors

1. to undertake tasks assigned by the President, with approval of the Executive Committee.

#### C. Term of Office

1. Elections shall be held annually, with no more than three new officers to be elected each year. The President shall serve the first year after election as Vice-President, the second year as President. All other officers shall serve two year terms.
2. The term of office shall begin and end with the close of the Section's Annual General Meeting.
3. Vacancies on the Executive Committee shall be filled by Executive Committee appointment, with the exception that the Vice-President shall fill the vacancy of the President's office. Members so appointed shall serve to the end of the term of the vacated office.

#### D. Meetings

1. An annual business meeting shall be held once a year, during CLA's annual conference.
2. Additional meetings may be called by the President or by a quorum of the Executive Committee, provided that four weeks' written notice of such meetings be given to all officers.
3. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of three officers.

#### VI COMMITTEES

- A. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint and discharge standing and *ad hoc* committees.
- B. Each committee shall report in writing to the Executive Committee at the Section's Annual General Meeting.



VII NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- A. Voting for elective office shall be by secret mail ballot. Prior to 1 November, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Nominations and Elections Committee of three personal Section members, one of whom shall be a Director. The President and Vice-President may not serve on this Committee. Members of this Committee shall be ineligible for nomination to any elective office.
- B. The Nominations and Elections Committee shall have the following duties:
  - 1. to request from Section members, nominations for the positions which will become vacant at the Section's next Annual General Meeting. Nominations must be received prior to 1 February and be accompanied by the biography of the nominee, his/her written consent to stand, and the signatures of the nominator and seconder.
  - 2. to determine whether or not nominees are personal members in good standing of the Section.
  - 3. to present to the Executive Committee, no later than 1 April, the names, biographies, and written consent of all eligible nominees
  - 4. to distribute to all personal Section members, official ballots with biographies of the nominees, no later than six weeks prior to the Section's Annual General Meeting. Ballots shall specify the postmark deadline and the submission address.
  - 5. to designate two of their number to open and count the official ballots. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes cast for each office shall be elected.
  - 6. to report the election results to the Section's Annual General Meeting.
  - 7. to inform the successful candidates in writing of their office and term.

VIII MEETINGS

- A. The Section shall hold an Annual General Meeting in conjunction with that of CLA. Notice of this meeting shall appear in the Newsletter at least one month prior to the meeting.
- B. Additional meetings may be called by the Executive Committee or, through written request to the President, by ten members of the Section, provided that the membership be notified in writing at least fourteen days before the meeting is to be held.
- C. A quorum shall consist of ten personal Section members.
- D. Voting shall be by show of hands, except where a vote by ballot is demanded by a majority of personal Section members present at a meeting, or where a vote is held concerning amendments to these By-laws. Each personal member shall be entitled to one vote.

- E. The order of all Section meetings shall be in accordance with the latest edition of Bourinot's Rules of Order.

#### IX PUBLICATIONS

- A. The Section shall have the power to issue publications which further its objectives.
- B. The Section shall periodically issue the Canadian Art Libraries (CARLIS) Newsletter, available without charge to Section members.
- C. The Executive Committee shall appoint the Newsletter Editor, for a term of two years, subject to renewal.
- D. The Editor's duties shall be as follows:
1. to compile and distribute the Newsletter.
  2. to maintain the Newsletter's mailing list.
  3. to report, in writing, to the Executive Committee at the Section's Annual General Meeting.

#### X AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

- A. The Executive Committee or five Section members may propose amendments to these By-laws. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the President not less than sixty days before the Section's Annual General Meeting.
- B. Voting shall be by secret mail ballot. The text of proposed amendments, along with official ballots shall be mailed to personal Section members by the Secretary/Treasurer not less than thirty days prior to the Section's Annual General Meeting.
- C. The President and Secretary/Treasurer shall open and count the official ballots. Approval by two thirds of those voting shall be necessary to amend these By-laws.
- D. The President shall announce the voting results at the Section's Annual General Meeting.

#### CARLIS BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

Theresa Boyce Iverson, Chair  
Peter B. Anthony  
Ken Chamberlain  
Kathy Zimon

Please address any comments concerning the proposed by-laws to:

T. B. Iverson  
Chair, By-laws Committee  
3031 Alma Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6R 3S9

Submission deadline: 1 June 1981

Resolution sent to Federal Cultural Policy Review Committee

In co-operation with ARLIS/NA Canadian Representative Karen McKenzie (see report on ARLIS/NA Canadian members' meeting in San Francisco elsewhere in this issue, 1 submitted, on behalf of CARLIS, the following resolution to the Federal Cultural Policy Review Committee. The substance of the resolution was cleared with CLA before being forwarded to Ottawa. Paul-Emile Leblanc, secretary to the committee, has since acknowledged receipt of the resolution by the Federal Cultural Policy Review Committee.

Be it resolved that Canadian art librarians are mindful of the necessity of adequate public information in the art sector of cultural creation and patrimony. They therefore support and encourage the creation of checklists not only of the holdings of publicly supported art galleries and museums, but also of art collections held by other institutions, for example, public libraries and universities.

Be it also resolved that these checklists, based on minimum professional standards of information, be given an absolute priority within these institutions and be made ready for publication or even published by 1985.

Be it finally resolved that these checklists be considered the necessary and uniform beginnings for further work, leading eventually to illustrated summary catalogues or fully illustrated scholarly catalogues as may be required. The public interest initially requires published checklists in the absence of more sophisticated publications.

Kathy E. Zimon

Kathy E. Zimon, Chairman  
Canadian Art Libraries Section,  
Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Service  
A Division of the Canadian Library Association

March 4, 1981

### BOOK REVIEWS

1980 saw us move from famine to feast in the realm of Canadian art auction indexes; last year four titles appeared:

Auction prices of American artists, vol. 2: auction seasons 78/9, 79/80.  
Weybridge, Eng., Art Sales Index Ltd., 1980. £25

Canadian art auctions 1975-1980: a record of Sotheby Parke Bernet (Canada) Inc. sales, October 1975 - May 1980 / edited by Geoffrey Joyner. Toronto: Sotheby Parke Bernet (Canada) Inc., 1980. \$32.00

Canadian art auctions: sales and prices 1976-1978 / compiled and edited by Harry Campbell. Don Mills: General Publishing, 1980. \$60.00

The Canadian art sales index 1977-80. Vancouver: Published for Westbridge Fine Art Marketing Services by Left Bank Publications Ltd., 1980. \$24.95

At \$24.95 Canadian art sales index may appear to be the best buy for Canadian reference libraries. Indexing 8,000 paintings, drawings, and prints by 1,000 Canadian artists, but not native artists, sold from fifteen houses in six cities up to June 1980, its arrangement is very sensibly by price, and prices as low as \$5.00 are listed thus ensuring the inclusion of minor artists. By contrast Canadian art auctions, at \$60.00, going only to December 1978, indexes 6,000 works by 1200 artists, starting at \$50.00, sold by nine houses in three cities, and for quick reference its arrangement by title is awkward.

Is it necessary then to purchase both titles? Yes. Very definitely yes, for though they overlap in time span and in sales covered, the more current Canadian art sales index, while including sales in Victoria, Edmonton, and Calgary, omits important eastern sales covered by Canadian art auctions. It is annoying that Canadian art sales index does not give the dates of the sales it indexes in the preface; a spot check of the Canadian art sales index against Canadian art auctions reveals that the former has picked up a few works falling below the latter's \$50.00 starting price, but has missed over a third of the paintings and drawings indexed by the latter for 1977 and 1978. Moreover Canadian art auctions lists sculpture and works by native artists, and gives brief biographies of all artists. For collectors of Inuit art it is a vital reference work.

Canadian art auctions is well bound with illustrations near the entry for the work reproduced, and is very evidently designed for permanent reference. A research library will certainly want to preserve the paperback Canadian art sales index too, but its close inner margins will make binding difficult. Its illustrations are scattered at random throughout the text, and entries do not indicate that a work is illustrated.

Having invested in the Canadian art sales index and Canadian art auctions some libraries may find the Sotheby publication, Canadian art at auction, a luxury, however, a library aiming at complete coverage of Canadian art should purchase this title as well. It does include sculpture sold between 1979 and 1980, deliberately excluded from the Canadian art sales index, plus paintings and drawings missed, and it covers 1975, a year omitted from both current and previous editions of Canadian art auctions. Surprisingly, in view of the popularity of native art with collectors, Sotheby chose not to index it. It is bound for permanent reference and its illustrations include nineteen colour plates.

In the April 1980 number of this newsletter I reviewed Auction prices of American artists: auctions 1970-1978. Volume two, paperbound with close inner margins, includes 1437 works by Canadian artists sold in the seasons 1978/79-1979-80, oils from a starting price of \$200, watercolours from \$150. Except for works sold abroad, the items indexed are included in the three Canadian titles, and I repeat my previous conclusion - a library which does not subscribe to Art sales index and must have as complete a record of Canadian art as possible would buy this, but the added coverage is minor.

In spite of this feast of indexes I still hunger after an annual sales index of Canadian art appearing as soon as the season ends, bound or bindable, and covering all works in all sales at all prices. It might even list some representative pieces of furniture and decorative arts.

The Canadian art sales index in its introduction states that from 1981 it will be an annual and will include sculpture and native art. Perhaps this one will gratify my appetite. In a few months we will find out.

Jacqueline Hunter, National Gallery Library

#### PUBLICATIONS, RECENT AND FORTHCOMING

MARY WILLIAMSON (CARLIS Newsletter editor) recently completed a 90 page survey for the Ontario Arts Council of Resources in Ontario Libraries for research into arts and artistic activity in Canada. The study, which grew out of the Symons Report on Canadian Studies (1975) and the seeming lack of progress since the Report in research activity, examines both library collections themselves, and the present state of bibliographic access to these collections. Several National Library surveys provided a starting point for the study, and in addition a questionnaire was sent to 130 public libraries which might own promising local history collections; 88 libraries responded. The completed study includes inventories of mostly unique collections in public, university and special libraries, and a listing of bibliographic projects in progress or very recently published.

JAN ROSENER, bibliographer with the Special Collections Division of the University of Calgary Libraries, has just completed an index to the periodical HIGHLIGHTS, Newsletter of the Alberta Society of Artists. HIGHLIGHTS flourished under the editorship of Alberta artists Jim Nicoll and Doug Motter during the fifties. The index will be published, probably as the first title in a new series of indexes and bibliographies being produced by the Special Collections Division of the University of Calgary Libraries.

JAN ROSENER is also the author of an article on "Canadian Portrait Miniatures" in Antiques and Art, vol. 7, no. 4, April 1981, pp. 29-31.

Extravaganza! Fantasy Scenes and Costumes from 100 Years of Variety Theatre 1850-1950 is the title of the catalogue of an exhibition at the Nickle Arts Museum, the University of Calgary, April 7-May 10, 1981. Curator for the exhibition and author of the catalogue is PHILIP MCCOY of the Drama Department at the University of Calgary. The 24 page catalogue, illustrated with 2 glossy color reproductions, is Occasional Paper no. 7 in the series published by the Special Collections Division, University of Calgary Libraries, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary T2N 1N4. The catalogue (ISBN 0-88953-017-3) is available free of charge from the above address.

ARLIS/NA Canadian Members' Meeting, February 23'81, 9-10 pm, San Francisco

In anticipation of a professional and geographic warming experience, Canadians gathered in San Francisco in larger numbers than usual, providing this conference with 6 per cent Canadian content, according to Canadian Board Representative Karen McKenzie. Conflicting events prevented a universal turn-out at the Canadian members' meeting, chaired by Karen McKenzie, but sixteen plus 'honorary Canadian' Wolfgang Freitag met together for a very full agenda.

The group endorsed a resolution to be directed to the Federal Cultural Policy Review Committee, a mini 'royal commission' charged with receiving briefs, holding hearings and making recommendations concerning government policy for culture, and the arts in particular for years to come. The resolution, which will join similar resolutions from organizations representing Canadian art historians and art galleries asserts Canadian art librarians' support for the preparation and publication of check-lists of art collections in publicly supported art galleries, museums and libraries.

A lack of notable progress in the development of bibliographic access to library materials is a continuing concern of Canadian art librarians. The Canadian Periodicals Index which is the index most widely available to general library users in Canada includes few art titles, and none representing the progressive art scene or artists' publications. While C.P.I. recently invited suggestions for additional titles from its subscribers, it was felt by those at the meeting that the recommendations of Canadian art librarians are lost among the votes of generalist subscribers who are not familiar with non-academic art magazines. A sheet of paper was sent around for additional titles needing indexing for forwarding to the Canadian Periodicals Index by Karen McKenzie. Seven titles were suggested. There was also a discussion about the preservation of ephemeral Canadian art magazines, especially those printed on newsprint. While there have been several instances of commercial microfilmmers borrowing library sets for filming, and some publishers are making microfilms available of their own journals (e.g. Vanguard, and CARFAC News), there are others which are not being filmed, except perhaps on a non-commercial basis by libraries who feel they cannot otherwise preserve the material. Ten titles were recommended for filming, and the list will be forwarded to Micromedia in Toronto.

A memo from Susan Hasbury, Documentalist with the National Gallery Library, indicated that CARLIS' Artists in Canada Data Base Project was proceeding successfully. Eighteen institutions are now contributing artists' names to the original Artists in Canada Data Base of the National Inventory Programme, and there are more who wish to add their lists. The Artists in Canada Data Base contains the names of artists for whom inputting libraries own a file, such files usually including biographical information, exhibition notices, newspaper clippings and small catalogues, etc. While the last edition of Artists in Canada in 1977 included only the National Gallery's own files, the next edition, possibly the last printed edition, will be a union list of the 18 institutions' holdings, and with luck will be ready for the CARLIS/CLA conference in June.

Mary Williamson reported briefly on the RLG Art and Architecture Committee pre-conference meeting she had attended, and about her preliminary discussions some weeks earlier with UTLAS. UTLAS, which is based in Toronto, is entering into agreements with RLG, and by now is aware that Canadian art libraries (few are presently UTLAS members) feel that they and Canadian art scholars would benefit from an association with RLG.

The chairman asked for comments on the new ARLIS/NA membership form which now includes French and Spanish translations of the name of the Society, but no translations of the descriptive text. She was asked by those present to urge the Society to convert the large blank spaces of the brochure into French and Spanish translations. As it stands, the Society appears to not represent some areas of North America.

Among non-agenda items discussed was the question of how to deal with lists of Canadian artists being distributed by the publishers of Thieme-Becker for its new

edition. The first list, consisting of 125 artists with names beginning 'A' was circulated among various Canadian art historians and curators before ending up in the National Gallery Library. Some of the artists listed are not Canadian. Melva Layer had been asked by Jacqueline Hunter, National Gallery Librarian, to ask the assembly who would take responsibility for checking the list. Karen McKenzie (Art Gallery of Ontario), Melva Dwyer (University of British Columbia) and Daphne Dufresne (Universite du Quebec a Montreal) agreed to verify names on the 'A' list, but it was suggested that Maia Vilcins of the National Gallery Library coordinate the checking. The list will also be checked against the Artists in Canada Data Base.

The chairman then turned the meeting over to Kathy Zimon, chairman of the Canadian Art Libraries Section (CARLIS) of CASLIS/CLA for a discussion of the Section's draft by-laws being prepared by a committee chaired by Theresa Iverson.

Mary F. Williamson, Recorder

## ART LIBRARIES SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA MEETS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Computer applications to indexing, slide collections and management of art data; book arts in the library; continuing education for art librarianship; reprint publishing and libraries: these were some of the issues addressed by 300 members of ARLIS/NA at their ninth annual conference in San Francisco, February 21-26.

A pre-conference workshop on AACR 2 cataloging for art materials, as well as an overflow attendance at a session "AACR 2 Goes Public," reflected the concern of the Society over the impact of the revised Anglo-American cataloging rules on art libraries.

David Gebhard, professor of Architectural History at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and president of the Society of Architectural Historians, gave the slide-illustrated keynote address: "Six Sets of Meaning: Symbolism and Imagery in American Architecture of the Twenties."

The ARLIS/NA 1980 Wittenborn awards for North American art publications displaying excellence in both production and content went to the University of Texas Press for Donald Coudry's Mexican Masks; and to the Whitney Museum of American Art for Gail Levin's Edward Hopper; the Art and the Artist, and Barbara Haskell's Marsden Hartley. The periodical CA (Communications Arts Magazine) received the award for 20 years of outstanding work in its field.

Kathryn Vaughn, a library science student at the University of Chicago, won the Gerd Muehsam award (named in honor of its founder and former chairperson) for her study "Comparison of Classification and Cataloging Systems for Slides in the Art Library."

San Francisco architecture was the topic of a panel discussion, as well as the theme of several walking tours during the conference period.

The ARLIS/NA conference ended with a joint program with the College Art Association, "The Received Image; the Role of Reproductions."

Resources for the Study of English Provincial Art and Architecture  
ARLIS/UK Conference, April 8-11, 1981, Liverpool.

The theme of the ARLIS/UK conference, attended by 40 delegates, could have as easily been used for a Canadian conference, and indeed it should be kept in mind for a future CARLIS workshop. The subjects of the 9 lectures offered included present-day private and state patronage of the arts, research on Merseyside artists and on the Norwich School of Artists, researching the Pevsner 'Buildings of England' series, and vernacular architecture and its documentation. All presentations highlighted an important easily forgotten fact, which is that the resources for the study of the art and architecture of a region are by no means limited to art libraries, and the further back from the present one reaches, the more one is dependent upon newspapers, general periodicals, guide books, photographs, city directories, maps and archival records and manuscripts. Considerable concern was expressed that art librarians are too often<sup>no</sup> familiar with research materials and the guides to these materials which are located outside their own jurisdiction. But it is also true that librarians and archivists in charge of general local history collections are unaware of the importance of these collections for art research. Art information of this kind must be identified, indexed and recorded. When old newspapers are indexed, are the advertisements placed by artists and craftsmen noted? - and are brief references to artists, exhibitions, prints for sale, and buildings formally opened, considered important enough to index?

An historian of vernacular architecture spoke of topographic art, or paintings in which buildings are a minor background feature as source documents for identifying methods of construction, and for determining the appearance of a building before later alterations. On the other hand, an art historian researching Merseyside painters uses architectural information in the form of texts and photographs to identify the location and dating of a painting in which buildings appear.

One speaker noted that in the case of provincial art whose aesthetic value is not so great that it completely transcends its geographic origins, information about contemporary historical events, patronage, ownership, and the subject matter of the work become crucial, and most of this information is drawn from non-art sources. Another stressed the importance of documenting the work and careers of artists who may not be in the national mainstream, who do not receive awards and grants for creating centrally 'approved' art, but who may work in regional, even eccentric styles which are an authentic expression of their environment.

Two speakers who are writing the history of the Liverpool and Norwich art schools from their origins in the early 19th century, addressed the enormously important role of the schools' own records: minutes, photographs, anecdotal accounts, clippings about the school and its alumni, for charting the history of art education and the careers of individual artists.

While the study of provincial art, architecture and crafts in their many forms is still not universally approved in art historical circles, the interest is growing, shown in increasing numbers of well-researched exhibitions and monographs. Students, however, too often forget to consult local resources in the area where an artist was born or worked, expecting (often wrongly) that the large metropolitan libraries would be a first resource.

The conference included an excursion to Tatton Park in Cheshire, where in addition to wonderful gardens and a stately home designed by Samuel Wyatt, there is a library assembled by generations of the Egerton family of some books and volumes of engraved plates for 17th to 19th century European art and architecture.

Mary F. Williamson



## CARLIS

Nominations and Elections, Transitional Procedures, 1981

- A. Voting for elective office shall be by secret mail ballot. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Nominations and Elections Committee of two Section members. Members of this committee shall be ineligible for nomination to any elective office.
- B. The Nominations and Elections Committee shall have the following duties:
  - 1. To generate a slate of candidates for the positions of President (1 year term), Vice-President/President-Elect (1 year term), Secretary/Treasurer (2 year term), Director (1 year term), and Director (2 year term).\*
  - 2. To determine that all nominees are personal members in good standing of the Section.
  - 3. To present to the Section Chairman, no later than 31 March 1981, the names and biographies of all eligible nominees, along with the written consent of the nominees.
  - 4. To distribute to all personal Section members, official ballots with space for write-in candidates, no later than 18 April 1981. Ballots shall specify the postmark deadline of 15 May 1981 and the submission address.
  - 5. To open and count the official ballots. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes cast for each office shall be elected.
  - 6. To report the election results to the Section's Annual General Meeting.
  - 7. To inform the successful candidates in writing of their office and term.

\*Terms of office reflect set-up of staggered elections so that no more than 3 new officers are elected each year.

By-laws Committee: Theresa B. Iverson, Chairman  
 Peter Anthony  
 Ken Chamberlain  
 Kathy Zimon

26/2/81

CANADIAN ART LIBRARIES (CARLIS) NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of the Canadian Art Libraries Section  
of CASLIS, CLA

Volume 5, no. 4, May 1981

Guest Editor: Kathy Zimon

Mailing list and distribution: Jan Roseneder

In this issue:

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Submission to Federal Cultural Policy Review Committee

Please send contributions for future issues of the  
newsletter to the editor:

Mary F. Williamson  
186 Moore Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4T 1V8

MAILING LIST

The last issue (v.5 no. 3) of the CARLIS Newsletter was sent only to those CARLIS members who had renewed their CLA memberships by January 31, 1981. If you did not receive the last issue, but have since renewed your CLA membership, I will try to send you a copy of v.5 no.3 upon my receipt of proof of your valid CLA membership.

However, only a small number of issues are left, and requests will be filled on a first come, first served basis while quantities last.

If you wish to receive the CARLIS Newsletter without interruption, please renew your CLA membership promptly as we are dependent on the official membership list supplied by CLA head office to determine the names eligible for our mailing list.

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